



United States Department of Agriculture

Campground Concession “Pre-Solicitation”

Ashley National Forest

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Forest Service**



Figure 1. Photo from the Ashley National Forest



Forest Service

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Business Opportunity

Introduction

The Ashley National Forest is issuing this pre-solicitation to inform interested parties of the upcoming campground concession opportunity and site visit that will occur prior to the prospectus publication. Responses received because of this pre-solicitation could potentially assist the forest with the development of the prospectus.

This pre-solicitation notice is issued solely for information and planning purposes and does not constitute a solicitation, prospectus, or Request for Proposal. Further, the Ashley National Forest is not seeking proposals at this time and will not accept unsolicited proposals. Responding to this pre-solicitation notice or visiting the area is not required to apply for any future prospectus.

The upcoming prospectus will solicit applications from interested parties for one campground concession special use permit to provide high-quality public service in the operation and maintenance of government-owned recreation facilities located on the Ashley National Forest. The permit will include developed sites located on the Flaming Gorge and Vernal Ranger Districts.

The three-year average gross revenue of these facilities is **\$1,091,084.13**.

Table 1. Three-year average gross revenue

Year	Gross Revenue
2020	\$1,140,244.84
2021	\$1,120,031.00
2022	\$1,012,976.56
Three Year Average Gross Revenue	\$1,091,084.13

Area Description

The Ashley National Forest is located in northeastern Utah and southwestern Wyoming. Its 1.3 million acres are located in three major areas: the northern and southern slopes of the Uinta Mountains, the Wyoming Basin, and the Tavaputs Plateau. Forest landscapes range from high desert country to high mountain areas, with diversity in topography, vegetation, and scenery. The recreation niche of the forest is concisely described as Big Fish and Ancient Rocks; several Utah sport fishing records are held for Flaming Gorge Reservoir catches, and a billion years of geologic history is visible along the Flaming Gorge Uintas Scenic Byway (Highway 191).

Thirty-one (31) campgrounds are offered in this prospectus. Twenty-seven (27) are located on the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area (FGNRA); three (3) of the FGNRA sites are boat-in campgrounds on the Flaming Gorge Reservoir; three (3) campgrounds are located on the mountain on the Flaming Gorge Ranger District just outside the FGNRA. One (1) campground is located on the Vernal Ranger District.

Flaming Gorge Ranger District

The Flaming Gorge Ranger District is located in the most northern and eastern portions of the Forest. The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area (FGNRA) is located on the Flaming Gorge Ranger District and consists of 190,050 acres adjacent to the Flaming Gorge Reservoir and Green River. Flaming Gorge Ranger District and the FGNRA can be accessed from four directions (east, west, north, and south), serving population bases in the Denver Colorado area, the Salt Lake City and Provo City area of Utah,

western Wyoming communities, and travelers from the south. Access is by US Highways 40 and 191, Utah State Highways 43 and 44, and Wyoming State Highways 414 and 530 leading south from Interstate Highway 80. Three designated National Scenic Byways, Utah State Highway 44, Wyoming State Highway 530 and US Highway 191 serve as the principal access route to most of the offered sites. Although the FGNRA is several hours from major population sources, and is a key destination vacation area for Colorado, Wyoming, Arizona, Utah, national and international travelers.

The 91-mile Flaming Gorge Reservoir with its 360 miles of shoreline, and the Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam are the main attractions on the FGNRA. These attractions provide exceptional fishing, power boating, floating, boat camping opportunities, and other water-based recreation. Approximate one million people from the United States and foreign countries visit this area each year to enjoy the natural beauty and recreation opportunities. National and international experts in fly-fishing frequent the Green River portion of the FGNRA. Nearby mountain lakes also provide fishing and boating opportunities, although powerboats are not recommended. For more information on this area, visit the [FGNRA webpage](#).

Vernal Ranger District

The Vernal Ranger District is located south of, and adjacent to, the Flaming Gorge Ranger District, and is accessed most frequently from US Highway 191, which connects Vernal, Utah to the Flaming Gorge NRA. Three of the offered campgrounds are in close proximity to FGNRA with one (1) along Highway 191 and one (1) within 10 miles of Highway 191. For more information on this district, visit the [forests' webpage](#).

Developed Recreation Sites and Facilities

The following proposed site list is subject to change prior to the prospectus release.

Flaming Gorge Ranger District and National Recreation Area

[Antelope Flat Campground & Dump Station](#)
[Antelope Flat Group Campground](#)
[Arch Dam Group Campground](#)
[Buckboard Crossing Campground & Dump Station](#)
[Canyon Rim Campground](#)
[Carmel Campground](#)
[Cedar Springs Campground](#)
[Deer Run Campground & Dump Station](#)
[Dripping Springs Campground](#)
[Dutch John Draw Group Site](#)
[Firefighter's Memorial Campground & Dump Station](#)
[Firehole Campground](#)
[Greendale Campground](#)

[Greendale Group Campground](#)
[Greens Lake Campground](#)
[Hideout Canyon Boat-in Campground](#)
[Jarvies Canyon Boat-in Campground](#)
[Kingfisher Island Boat-in Campground](#)
[Lucerne Valley Complex & Dump Station](#)
[Manns Campground](#)
[Mustang Ridge Campground](#)
[Red Canyon Campground](#)
[Sheep Creek Bay Campground](#)
[Skull Creek Campground](#)
[Summit Springs Guard Station](#)
[Stateline Cove Beach Campground](#)
[Willows Campground](#)

Flaming Gorge Ranger District

[Browne Lake Campground & Group Sites](#)
[Deep Creek Campground](#)

[Spirit Lake Campground](#)

Vernal Ranger District

Lodgepole Campground & Dump Station

Permit Term

The Ashley National Forest will be offering a standard permit term for up to 5 years, with an option to extend the term for up to an additional 5 years at the sole discretion of the authorized officer.

Advertisement Period

The Ashley National Forest anticipates advertising the prospectus in January or February of 2024. The current permit expires December 31, 2024.

Site Visit

Prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to visit during the summer of 2023. This will allow interested parties to view the sites during peak-season and ensures that sites are accessible without the risk of snow-impact and road closures. Visiting the forest and sites will provide prospective bidders a more thorough understanding of this offering.

Guided in-person site visits are scheduled for July 10th and July 17th. Interested parties will be led by forest staff on a tour of key sites included in the prospectus. It is anticipated that key sites can be visited in one day, so site visit itineraries will be the same on both days.

Specific details regarding the tours will be made available to those who RSVP. Please RSVP to Donald Jaques at donald.jaques@usda.gov by **June 30th, 2023**.

These dates may be altered or cancelled by the forest in the event of weather impacts, fire hazards, or COVID restrictions. If the site visit is cancelled or a prospective bidder is unable to attend during the designated dates, the forest will be available to answer questions via email or phone call. Forest staff may have limited availability to conduct in-person tours outside of the above scheduled dates, given advanced notice. Attendance on a site visit is optional and participation does not affect awarding of the permit.

Alternatively, prospective bidders may visit and view the sites on their own any date which the forest and sites are open and operational.

Questions and Request for Feedback

Any questions, comments, or concerns regarding this pre-solicitation are welcome. The forest strongly encourages interested parties to reach out to Donald Jaques at donald.jaques@usda.gov.